2020 | 1441 AH

# The 10 Days of al-Karamah

## Project Booklet

Under the Guidance of Moulana Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)

Please recite a Fātiḥah for
Mohammedali Gulamhussein Ibrahim,
Aunali Kassamali Gulamali, Ummat ul Fatima,
the marḥūmīn of the Kassamali Gulamali
family, and the Gulamhussein Ibrahim family,
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**INFORMATION AND INSPIRATION:**

al-islam.org

cover:
freepik.com
english.khamenei.ir - How did Imam Reza (as) expose the tyranny of Ma'moon while empty-handed?

بِسۡمِ اللّٰہِ الرَّحۡمٰنِ الرَّحِیۡمِ

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Salāmun ʿAlaykum! May Allah bless you and your families.

Alḥamdulillāh, we have gained blessings in the holy month of Ramaḍān, but we always want to keep our souls spiritually charged. Now with the month of Dhul Qaʿdah, we can begin the Ten Days of al-Karāmah. These ten days are celebrated with the wilādah of two blessed personalities: Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa) (11th Dhul Qa'dah), and his sister Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (ʿa) (1st Dhul Qaʿdah).

Al-Karāmah is a very high level of connection to Allah that one can reach. We can understand karāmah as honor, dignity, and kindness that is achieved through taqwa, God consciousness. This level of human spirituality is reached through sincerity and a conscious effort to achieve nearness to Allah.

One of the personalities we remember during this week, Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (ʿa), is a prime example of one who has reached this lofty status. She dedicated her entire life striving for this rank, and was thus bestowed the title of Karīmah by the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa).

Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (ʿa) was the door to Imāmat, and because both hers and Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa) birthdays fall in Dhul Qaʿdah, we take this opportunity to understand and celebrate the ten days of al-Karāmah. She had a very special bond with her brother, Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa). It is a bond that cannot be broken by time or distance. When the Imām (ʿa) was forced to leave Medina, she became very sad. She decided to follow her brother to Iran, but passed before she could meet him. This year, we encourage everyone to think about the bond with their siblings, or anyone that is like a sibling, and work to strengthen that bond. Whatever issues or problems there may be, make an effort to resolve them.

Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (ʿa) was also known for attaining knowledge and the teachings of Allah. In turn, Allah made her final resting place one of the centers of knowledge. Her legacy lives on in Qom, which is now a hub of knowledge. Seekers of knowledge from all over the world flock to Qom, a city that houses thousands of scholars and institutions, in pursuit of the highest level of knowledge. And consequently, many of these scholars travel the world to spread this knowledge and its blessings.

We pray that through the lessons of this booklet, which focus on karāmah and education, we are able to achieve high levels of ikhlāṣ (sincerity), karāmah (honor), and ʿizzah (dignity), inshāʾAllāh.

JazākAllāh Khayr and Best Wishes,
Nabi R. Mir (Abidi)
Resident ʿĀlim of SABA Islamic Center

# The Days of al-Karāmah

**Objective:** Children will learn about the significance of the days of al-Karāmah.

We are now beginning the month of Dhul Qaʿdah, the 11th month of the Islamic year. After the blessed month of Ramaḍān, and before the new year begins, this month is a good time to charge our spiritual batteries. The first ten days of this month are known as the Days of al-Karāmah, and they are a celebration of the wilādah of two blessed personalities.

The Days of al-Karāmah start with the wilādah of Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (ʿa), the sister of Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa), on the 1st of Dhul Qaʿdah, and end with the wilādah of Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa) on the 11th Dhul Qaʿdah.

*Al-Karāmah* is a very high level of connection to Allah that we should try as much as possible to reach. It can be described as the honor, dignity, and kindness that is achieved through *taqwa*, God consciousness. In the Qurʾān, Allah says, *"Surely, the most honorable of you in the sight of Allah is the most God-conscious among you."* (49:13). This shows that we can reach that high level of Karāmah by sincerely and actively making an effort to get closer to Allah.

What are some ways we can become more God conscious and get closer to Allah? Doing good deeds, staying away from bad deeds, reading the Qurʾān regularly, taking out ṣadaqah, and being kind to others, are just a few examples. Let us continue to gain nearness to Allah through the teachings of the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa), who have reached the highest levels of Karāmah.

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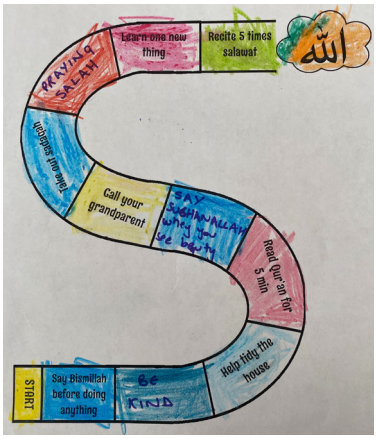
## Steps to Allah

**Suggested Ages:** 5+

**Time:** 30 minutes

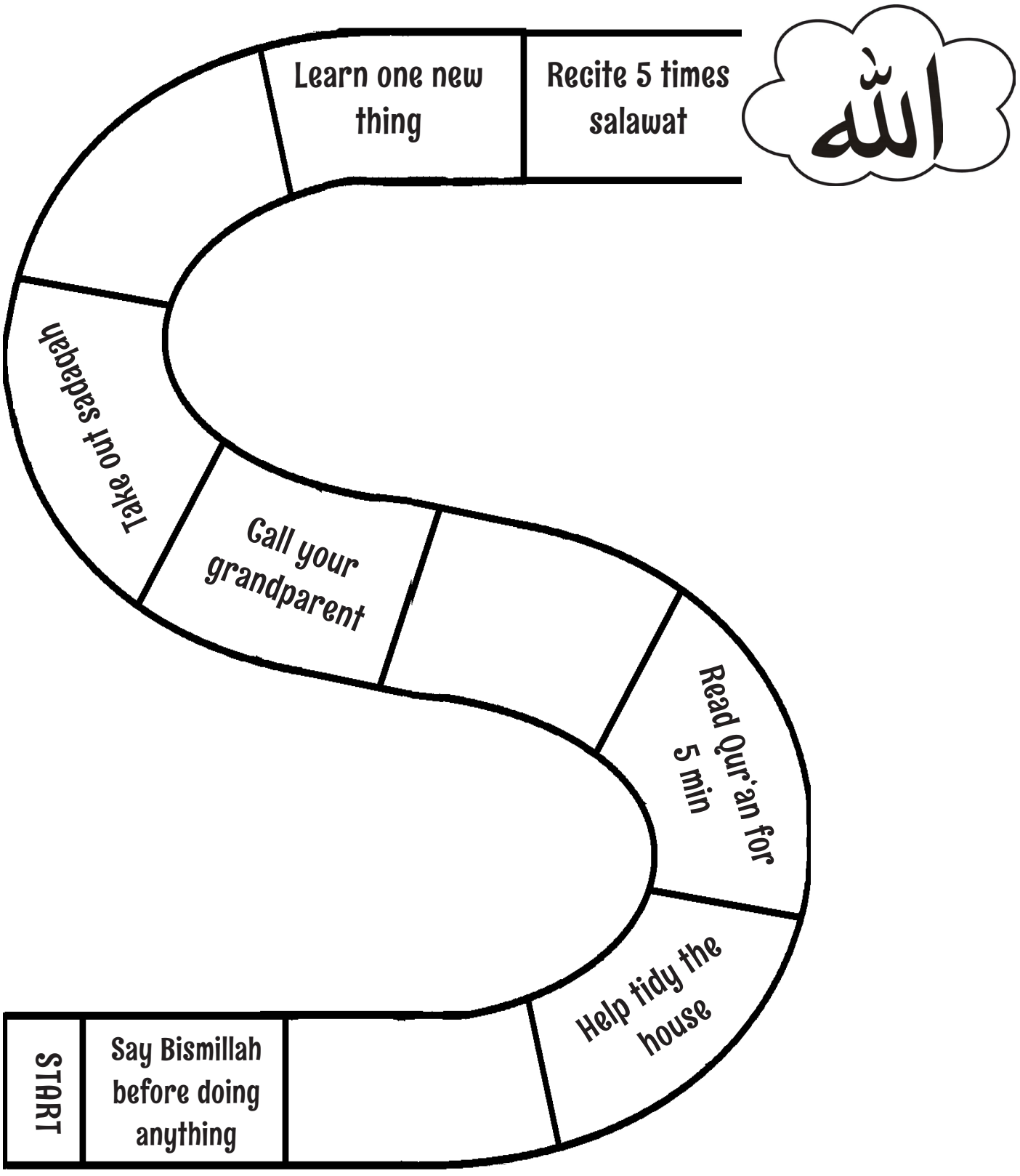
**Materials:**

- Steps to Allah map template
- Crayons/Colored pencils




**Procedure:**

1. Color the mapBegin where it says "Start" on the map. On each day, complete the action and color that space on the path.
2. In the blank spaces, think of one way to get closer to Allah and write it in. Color that space when completed.
3. Follow the path till you get to the end, closer to "Allah."
4. Do this every day during the days of al-Karāmah.


START
Say Bismillah before doing anything
Help tidy the house
Read Qur'an for 5 min
Call your grandparent
Take out sadaqah
Learn one new thing
Recite 5 times salawat
الله

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# Karīmah of the Ahl al-Bayt

**Objective:** Children will learn about Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (ʿa) and one of her titles.

Today we are celebrating the wilādah of Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (ʿa). She was the daughter of Imām Mūsā al-Kāẓim (ʿa) and the sister of Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa). One of her titles is *Karīmah of the Ahl al-Bayt*, the noble one of the family of the Prophet (ṣ). It was given to her by either the 5th Imām or the 6th Imām in a dream seen by Āyatullāh Sayyid Mahmūd Marʿashī Najafī.

Once, the noble man wanted to find the exact location of the grave of Sayyidah Fāṭimah az-Zahrāʾ (ʿa). He spent 40 days praying, so that he could be privileged with this information. After the 40 days, he went to sleep, and in his dream he saw the grave of either Imām Bāqir (ʿa) or Imām Ṣādiq (ʿa), both of whom are buried in Jannat al-Baqī in Medina. The Imām (ʿa) said to him, *"I advise you to go to the Karīmah of the Ahl al-Bayt (ʿa)."*

He thought that by Karīmah of the Ahl al-Bayt, the Imām (ʿa) was referring to Sayyidah Fāṭimah az-Zahrāʾ (ʿa), but the Imām (ʿa) said, *"I meant the holy grave of Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (ʿa) in Qom."* Then the Imām (ʿa) added, *"It is Allah's desire that the location of the holy grave of Sayyidah Fāṭimah az-Zahrāʾ (ʿa) be hidden from everyone."*

This shows the significance of the grave of Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (ʿa). When we want to remember Sayyidah Fāṭimah az-Zahrāʾ (ʿa), we have been instructed to visit her grand daughter's grave, who shares her name and many of the same qualities. We should try to go for zīyārah of Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah's (ʿa) shrine at least once in our lives, and also remember Sayyidah Fāṭimah az-Zahrāʾ (ʿa) when we are there.

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## Two Shrines

**Suggested Ages:** 5+

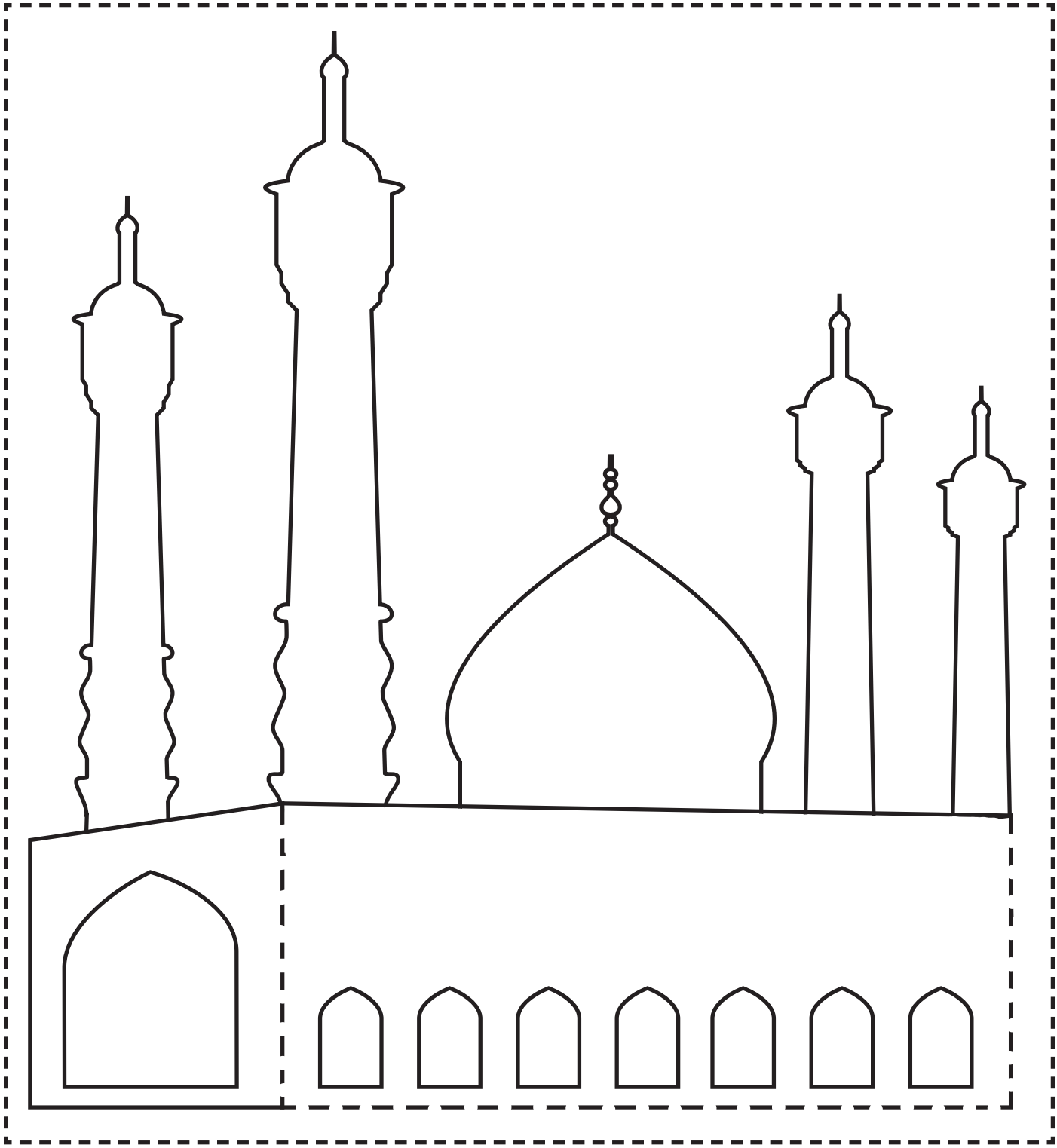
**Time:** 40 minutes

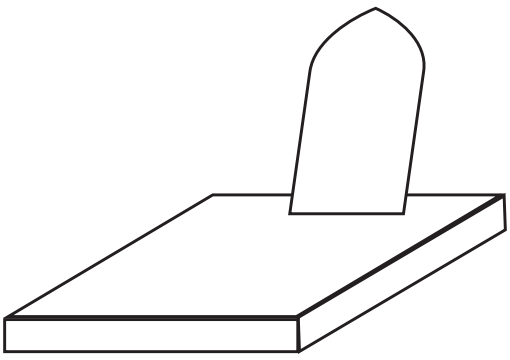
**Materials:**

- Shrine and grave template
- Blank piece of paper (can be white or colored)
- Crayons/Colored pencils
- Scissors
- Glue

**Procedure:**

1. Color and decorate the images of the shrine and grave.
2. Cut the shrine image out (the dotted line box around it).
3. Carefully cut along the 3 dotted lines of the shrine image. Be sure to not completely detach this piece from the shrine.
4. Lightly fold along the top horizontal line. This should make a flap.
5. Glue the shrine image to the blank piece of paper. Do not glue down the flap, it should be able to open and show the paper underneath.
6. Then, cut out the image of the grave.
7. Glue the grave image to the blank piece of paper underneath the flap.
8. The flap should be able to open and close to show the grave image underneath.





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# The City of Qom

**Objective:** Children will learn about the city of Qom and some significant places there.

Today we are going to learn about the city of Qom. It is a city in Iran where many people go to become *ʿālims*, or scholars. There are also many places to visit in Qom. There is the shrine of Sayyidah Fāṭimah al-Maʿṣūmah (ʿa), who is also known as Sayyidah Maʿṣūmah al-Qum (ʿa). Many people study at the *ḥawzah*, or Islamic school, which is located inside her *ḥaram*, or shrine. She is known for her love of knowledge, spreading the teachings of Allah, and is buried in one of the centers of knowledge.

Another place is the blue-domed Masjid al-Jamkarān. This is a special masjid associated with Imām Mahdī (ʿaj), which also has a ḥawzah. Besides these two places, there are many Islamic schools around Qom, such as Jāmiʿat uz-Zahrāʾ and Bint ul-Hudā for sisters, and Ḥujjatiyah, Ḥawzah of Imām ʿAlī, and Madrasah Imam Khomeini for brothers, to name a few.

Imām aṣ-Ṣādiq (ʿa) once said, *"Qom has been named so because the people of Qom will gather around Qāʾim Āle Muḥammad, the steadfast Imām of the household of the Prophet (ṣ) [Imām Mahdī (ʿaj)]; they will make a stand (qiyām) under his banner, stay loyal to him, and be his helpers."* Let us always strive to increase our knowledge and be good people so that we, too, can be helpers of our Imām (ʿaj).

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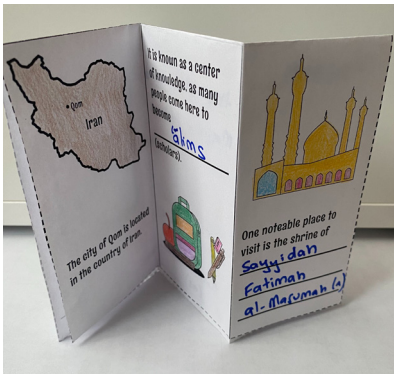
# City of Qom Brochure

**Suggested Ages:** 5+

**Time:** 40 minutes

**Materials:**

- Brochure template
- Pen/Pencil
- Crayons/Colored pencils
- Scissors
- Optional: tape/glue




**Procedure:**

1. Color the images. Fill in the blanks about the information on Qom.
2. Color the brochure.
3. Cut all along the outer edge of the brochure (the dotted lines).
4. First fold the paper in half width ways with the images and text on the outside.
5. Then, fold the paper along the 2 solid lines in a tri-fold style. It should look like a brochure with information on all sides.
6. Optional: you can tape or glue the paper so that the first fold doesn't open.

Name: _____

# The City of Qom




The city of Qom is located in the country of Iran.

It is known as a center of knowledge, as many people come here to become

_____

(scholars).



Another place to visit is

_____

_____

It is a masjid associated with



_____

_____

There are Islamic schools for both women and men to learn.



The harem of Sayyidah Fatimah al-Masuma (a).

_____

, or Islamic schools, are located all around the city, including in



One noteable place to visit is the shrine of

_____

_____

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# The Importance of Knowledge

**Objective:** Children will learn about why we should gain and spread knowledge.

In these Days of al-Karāmah, we will also be learning about our 8th Imām, Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa). Like all of the other Imāms, he too had knowledge of Islam as well as in knowledge in all of the sciences, even in the science of medicine.

What should one do with the knowledge they have gained? Imām ʿAlī ar-Riḍā (ʿa) once said: *“May Allah shower His mercy on His servant, who revives our [Ahl al-Bayt’s (ʿa)] affairs.”* The narrator asked: *"How should your affairs be revived?“* The Imām (ʿa) replied: *"By learning our knowledge and teaching our knowledge to others."*[1] From this ḥadīth, we can see that not only is gaining knowledge important, but so is teaching others and spreading knowledge.

So how can we spread knowledge and teach others what we have learned? Well, think of how others have taught you. Be like the teacher at your school who explains and helps us understand all of the things we learn in class. Write about what you know so that others may read what you have learned. Speak in different gatherings so that you can spread what knowledge you have. It is very important to first learn and gain knowledge before teaching others, and it also very important to have good akhlāq, or manners, when teaching others.

From what we know about Imām Riḍā (ʿa), we see that his knowledge was not just limited to Islamic rules and the Qurʾān. Imām (ʿa) also had knowledge of Allah’s creation and the sciences that govern creation. We too should strive to gain knowledge of our religion, as well as the world around us, and much more, so that we may gain closeness to Allah!

1 Wasāʾil ash-Shīʿah, vol. 18, p 102

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# Knowledge Mind Map

**Suggested Ages:** 5+

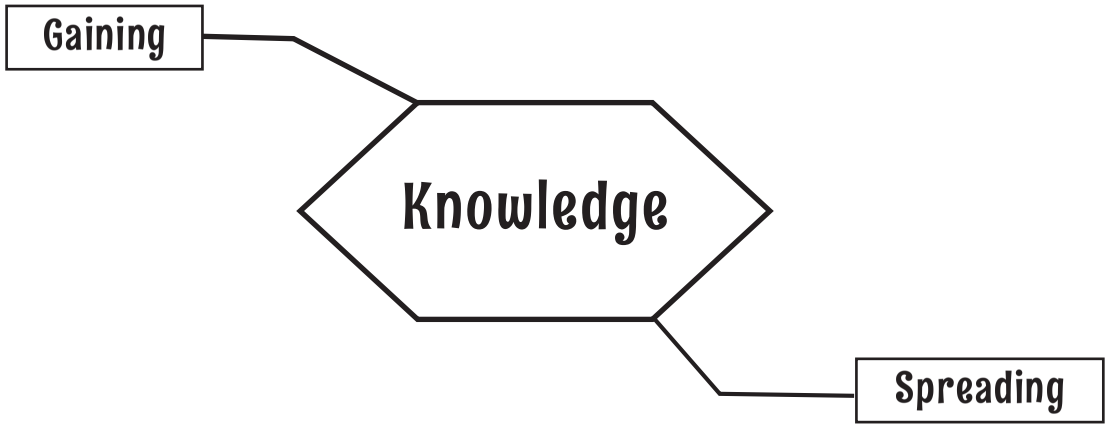
**Time:** 40 minutes

**Materials:**

- Mind map template
- Markers
- Crayons/Colored pencils

**Procedure:**

1. Color the mapimagesLook at the “Knowledge” mind map.
2. Using 1-2 word phrases, come up with ideas of how to gain knowledge. You can branch out each idea to become more and more specific.
3. Do the same for how to spread knowledge.
4. Draw some pictures to go with the ideas.
5. Color and decorate however you like. You can use different colors to separate each idea.
6. *Note to parents/teachers:* you can demonstrate the same thing on a larger poster/board.


Gaining
Knowledge
Spreading

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UNDER THE CLOAK OF GUIDANCE AND MERCY